

REMARKS

The Official Action mailed June 1, 2005, has been received and its contents carefully noted. This response is filed within three months of the mailing date of the Official Action and therefore is believed to be timely without extension of time. Filed concurrently herewith is a *Request for Continued Examination*. Accordingly, the Applicant respectfully submits that this response is being timely filed.

The Applicant notes with appreciation the consideration of the Information Disclosure Statements filed on August 30, 1999, April 26, 2001, March 5, 2002, and April 12, 2002.

Claims 7-31 were pending in the present application prior to the above amendment. Dependent claims 27-31 have been incorporated into independent claims 7, 11, 15, 19 and 23, respectively. As such, claims 27-31 have been canceled. Also, claims 11, 15, 19 and 23 have been amended to correct minor matters of form. Accordingly, claims 7-26 are now pending in the present application, of which claims 7, 11, 15, 19 and 23 are independent. For the reasons set forth in detail below, all claims are believed to be in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration is requested.

Paragraph 3 of the Official Action rejects claims 7-26 as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,586,874 to Komoto et al. Paragraph 10 of the Official Action rejects claims 27-31 as obvious based on the combination of Komoto et al. and U.S. Patent No. 5,999,282 to Suzuki et al. As noted above, dependent claims 27-31 have been incorporated into independent claims 7, 11, 15, 19 and 23, respectively. Therefore, the anticipation rejection is now moot, and the Applicants will respond to the remaining obviousness rejection with respect to amended claims 7, 11, 15, 19 and 23.

The Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection because the Official Action has not made a *prima facie* case of obviousness.

As stated in MPEP §§ 2142-2143.01, to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness, three basic criteria must be met. First, there must be some suggestion or motivation, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available

to one of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the reference or to combine reference teachings. Second, there must be a reasonable expectation of success. Finally, the prior art reference (or references when combined) must teach or suggest all the claim limitations. Obviousness can only be established by combining or modifying the teachings of the prior art to produce the claimed invention where there is some teaching, suggestion, or motivation to do so found either explicitly or implicitly in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art. "The test for an implicit showing is what the combined teachings, knowledge of one of ordinary skill in the art, and the nature of the problem to be solved as a whole would have suggested to those of ordinary skill in the art." In re Kotzab, 217 F.3d 1365, 1370, 55 USPQ2d 1313, 1317 (Fed. Cir. 2000). See also In re Fine, 837 F.2d 1071, 5 USPQ2d 1596 (Fed. Cir. 1988); In re Jones, 958 F.2d 347, 21 USPQ2d 1941 (Fed. Cir. 1992).

The prior art, either alone or in combination, does not teach or suggest all the features of the independent claims. The independent claims recite a white light reflected on a pixel electrode.


The Official Action concedes that Komoto does not teach "at least a part of the white light introduced to said counter substrate is reflected on the pixel electrode so as not to pass through the active matrix substrate of a polarization plate" (page 4, Paper No. 20050524). The Official Action asserts that Suzuki cures this deficiency in Komoto. Specifically, the Official Action asserts that Suzuki teaches that "the RGB light is converged on the surface of each [of] the RGB electrodes (fig. 1, col. 9, lines 62-64)" (Id.). However, in Suzuki, the light is actually converged on a dielectric mirror layer 14 over the R, G, B-electrodes 13r, 13g, 13b, as shown in Figure 1, and described at column 9, line 66 to column 10, line 4. The description in the specification defined at column 10, lines 3-4, "the light beam is converged on the surface of the R, G, B-electrodes," which appears to be relied upon in the Official Action, is not technically accurate in and of itself. The description is a summary of the more detailed disclosure

at column 9, line 66 to column 10, line 2, and in Figure 1. As such, Suzuki does not teach that white light is reflected on R, G, B-electrodes. Therefore, Komoto and Suzuki, either alone or in combination, do not teach or suggest a white light reflected on a pixel electrode.

Since Komoto and Suzuki do not teach or suggest all the claim limitations, a *prima facie* case of obviousness cannot be maintained. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) are in order and respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable to place this application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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